Equipment requirements for community based paediatric oxygen treatment

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Equipment	Reason for choice	Decision maker on equipment	Who provides equipment	Who covers cost of equipment	Comments
(1) Domiciliary systems:					
(A) Oxygen concentrator with low flow meter attachment	Best option when a continuous supply of oxygen is required. Less stressful for parents and more economical. To contact concentrator contractors dial 100 and ask for Freephone Oxygen	Hospital consultant	Concentrator provided by contractors—for example, DeVilbiss and Omnicare Low flow meter by contractor: DeVilbiss—charge £150 and sell equipment to the hospital. Omnicare—£40 rental charge to the hospital for as long as client requires equipment. By hospital itself—for example, Platon flow meter and technicians time to make a suitable bracket for fitting to the machine £90–120 approximately	FHSA Low flow meter: referring hospital—for example paediatric budget	A concentrator is preferable for the provision of long term oxygen treatment for paediatrics. Family also benefit from the companies maintenance support. At present, the hospital meets the expense of the low flow meter. It would be preferable if it was included in the concentrator package and funded by the FHSA
(B) Oxygen cylinders with bullnose regulator and low flow meter	When oxygen is used infrequently—for example, symptomatic relief	Hospital consultant	Cylinders: general practitioner on prescription (size F). Regulator and low flow meter are provided by the hospital	Cylinders by FHSA Regulator and low flow meter paid for by hospital: £51.50 for bullnose regulator, £40 low flow meter approximately	Less likely treatment choice. Majority of patients go home on low flows on continuous supply
(2) Portable systems:					
	Portables are essential to avoid mother and child becoming housebound	Hospital consultant (choice of equipment depends on its availability)	All portable systems are provided for by the hospital. Nothing is available on prescription	Hospital covers all the portable system costs	
(A) Hospital 'C' or 'D' cylinder: pin index regulator, low flow meter				Pin index regulator £69.15, low flow meter £40	Cumbersome system. Exchange of empty for full oxygen cylinders at hospital pharmacies causes practical problems. Sometimes not negotiable
(B) Sabre AAV low flow oxygen treatment equipment. Tel No 0252 334581				Sabre AAV: microcontroller £23.65, flow indicator £9.90, oxygen portable multiflow bullnose 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 125L=£165.05, 230L=£171.95, recharging adaptor =£33.50; settings at lower flows available on request	Most preferable system as refillable from domiciliary oxygen cylinders at home

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